

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for selectively hydrogenating citronellal to citronellol, comprising conducting in which a liquid phase, in which the citronellal is dissolved and particles of a catalyst are suspended, which is capable of preferentially hydrogenating carbon-oxygen double bonds over carbon-carbon double bonds, is conducted through a device which inhibits the transport of the catalyst particles in the presence of a hydrogen-containing gas, and wherein the liquid phase further comprises ammonia, a primary, secondary and/or tertiary amine, as well as an inert diluent, and wherein the concentration of citronellal in the liquid phase is from 50 to 90% by weight.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active component of the catalyst comprises ruthenium.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the device inhibiting the transport of the catalyst particles has orifices or channels whose hydraulic diameter is from 2 to 2000 times the average diameter of the catalyst particles.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 any of the preceding claims, wherein catalyst particles having an average diameter of from 0.0001 to 2 mm are used.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 any of the preceding claims, wherein the device inhibiting the transport of the catalyst particles is a

dumped packing, a knit, an open-celled foam structure or a structured packing element.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 any of the preceding claims, wherein the liquid phase and the hydrogen-containing gas are conducted through the device inhibiting the transport of the catalyst particles, at a superficial velocity of more than 100 m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>h.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 any of the preceding claims, wherein the surfaces of the device, facing toward the liquid phase, have a roughness in the region of from 0.1 to 10 times the average diameter of the catalyst particles.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 any of the preceding claims, wherein the diluent is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanol.

Claims 9-11 (Canceled)